

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 385
By Jones U (Shel)

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Earnest Joyce, Jr.,
for meritorious service to his profession.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body honor those people who through their endeavors are credits to their family, profession and community; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding person is Mr. Earnest Joyce, Jr., who for nearly twenty-five years served with diligence and acumen with the Federal Aviation Administration; and

WHEREAS, born the oldest of seven children to Fannie S. Joyce and the late Earnest Joyce, Sr., Mr. Joyce was raised and educated in Nashville. He graduated from Pearl Senior High School in 1960 and attended Tennessee State University and later Shelby State Community College; and

WHEREAS, Earnest Joyce, Jr. entered the U.S. Air Force in 1962, where he first became interested in air traffic control; and

WHEREAS, he began his storied career with the FAA in 1968 as an air traffic control trainee at Memphis ARTCC; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Joyce was the first African American air traffic control enroute journeyman in the FAA's Southern Region, and held such important positions as flow controller, training instructor, systems programming specialist and obstruction evaluation specialist before retiring in 1992; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to promoting racial understanding, Earnest Joyce has been a leader in civic projects and civil rights activities for years, recruiting African Americans and women in the Southern Region for air traffic control and other positions in the FAA; and

WHEREAS, he has also done extensive work as an equal employment opportunity counselor and has investigated equal employment opportunity complaints throughout the country with remarkable success; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many great works, Earnest Joyce still found time to lend his incredible talents to such noteworthy causes as the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees, holding offices and committee chair positions at every level, including National President; and

WHEREAS, his organizational skills and knowledge of the FAA's structure have been an important resource in developing meeting strategies and other concepts the Coalition still employs today; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Joyce has received national acclaim for his many outstanding contributions to the FAA, including its Certificate of Service, for retirement; Secretary's Award, for outstanding achievement in equal employment opportunity; Special Achievement Award, for outstanding contributions to the recruitment of minorities and females; and Special Achievement Award, for outstanding contributions to the EEO Program; and

WHEREAS, he has earned the NBCFAE's Leadership Award, for outstanding leadership and service; the Appreciation Award, for dedicated service; the Presidential Award, for leadership as past president; the Outstanding Achievement Award, for outstanding contributions to the EEO Program; the VIP Award, for outstanding leadership and management as president of NBCFAE's Southern Region; and the Special Achievement Award, for contributions to the success of the organization; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 this inimitable man received the Tennessee State University Alumni Association's Presidential and Lifetime Membership Awards;

WHEREAS, Earnest Joyce exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, his many honors and accolades aside, Earnest Joyce, Jr., is most appreciative of the love and support he shares with his devoted wife of 33 years, the former Rosalyn D. Pillow; their three children, Monica, Reginald and Sharon; and four grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to honor and commend Earnest Joyce for his unflagging dedication to his profession; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Mr. Earnest Joyce, Jr., for his service to the Federal Aviation Administration and National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees, and wish him every continued success in future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Mr. Joyce with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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